**Interim Relief to Employees in Newspaper Industry**

726. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders for payment of interim relief to employees in Newspaper industry have since been issued;

(b) if so, the details thereof with criteria of payment of different cadres of employees;

(c) whether such orders have been issued on representations from Newspapers employees or the Government felt for such payment on their own;

(d) if so, the details thereof, separately;

(e) whether Government in future would order for such payment of their own whenever the same becomes due; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c) Do not arise.

(e) to (f) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

**Less Sugar production in first quarter of 1996-97**

727. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite good prospects of sugarcane yield, sugar production during first three months of current year 1996-97 has been comparatively less than that during corresponding period of last year (1995-96);

(b) if so, comparative figures of sugar production; and

(c) reasons for decline in sugar production and how far the credit crunch especially in respect of sugar cooperatives and other sugar manufacturers is responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The sugar year is reckoned from October to September. The production of sugar upto 31st December, 1995 during the current 1995-96 sugar year was 37.27 lakh tonnes as against 41.16 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of last sugar year, 1994-95. The decline in sugar production during the first three months of 1995-96 sugar season was due to late start of crushing operations by the sugar factories. Production started picking up from January, 1996 and has reached 158.02 lakh tonnes as on 15th June, 1996 in the current season 1995-96 as against 140.49 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date of the last sugar season 1994-95.

**आठवीं योजना के दौरान सरकारी क्षेत्र के उद्यमों को हुए घाटे**

728. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:—

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आठवीं योजना के दौरान सरकारी क्षेत्र के उद्यमों के घाटों में निरन्तर वृद्धि हुई है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो आठवीं योजना की प्रारम्भिक अवधि के दौरान घाटे की कुल धनराशि कितनी थी और कितने उपक्रम घाटे में चल रहे थे;

(ग) वर्ष 1995-96 के दौरान कितना घाटा हुआ और घाटे में चल रहे उपक्रमों की अनुमानित संख्या कितनी थी;

(घ) क्या उक्त औद्योगिक उपक्रमों की अधिष्ठापित क्षमता के उपयोग में वृद्धि किये जाने के कोई प्रमाण हैं;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो ऐसे कितने उपक्रमों ने अपनी अधिष्ठापित उत्पादन क्षमता के उपयोग में वृद्धि की है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो इस वृद्धि की औसत दर क्या है?